OCT O 1 2003 PS

UTILITY PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Yakov Epshteyn

Group Art Unit: 1765

Serial No.:

09/943,487

Examiner: Binh X. Tran

Filed:

August 30, 2001

Attorney Docket No.: SFI 718D1

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REMOVING A MATERIAL LAYER FROM A

SUBSTRATE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent via U.S. Postal Service Mail addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop RCE, P.O.Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on September 29, 2003.

gnature:

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner of Patents Mail Stop RCE P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Commissioner:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action mailed June 29, 2003, relating to the above identified application, please amend the application as follows and consider the remarks presented below.